Gender Representation In Public Schools Textbooks of Balochistan

Rana Saba Sultan

Nadil Shah
Department of Sociology
University of Karachi, Pakistan

Ambreen Fazal
Department of Media Studies
Sindh Madressatul Islam University

Abstract

Gender became the attention of contemporary scholarship when they were found in domestic issues as well as gender inequality in terms of opportunities, education, health, political participation etc. Many laws have been carried out regarding women issues and provided policy and laws to provide opportunities for women to contribute in the social academia. The present study focuses on women presentation in school textbooks is newly emerging field of studies of Balochistan. The English Books for Class I to V were selected as the sample for present study. These books were selected through purposive sampling. All conversations, texts and images related to gender misrepresentation were taken from selected books. These data were interpreted by the help of Michal Foucault’s theory of power/Knowledge and Analysis and also Cultural Hegemony by Antonio Gramsci. The findings of the present study suggest that textbooks of Balochistan are misrepresenting women and promoting the male hegemony. The findings include domestic works and teaching jobs which are considered as low status and are not often seen as compatible with women’s roles.